1	2
July	42.8380
August	42.9374
September	45.5635
October	48.6555

Source: RBI

Rupee has depreciated *vis-a-vis* US $ by 13.43 per cent during May-October, 2008.

Naxalite and terrorist violence threat to internal security

†*238. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that both naxal and terror violence are threats to internal security;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) between the above two propositions, which one the Government has chosen to tackle first?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The Government considers both terrorist violence and naxalite violence to be serious threats to internal security. Measures are being taken to deal with both these threats.

Prior intelligence inputs about terror strikes in Mumbai

*239. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had prior intelligence inputs about the terror strikes in Mumbai and other places;

(b) if so, whether the advisories were issued to the States in this regard;

(c) whether Government would take any follow up action to see that States take appropriate action to prevent undesired elements from carrying out terrorist attacks; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Inputs and information are received from time to time from various sources regarding possible terrorist designs and threats, which are shared with the agencies and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

States concerned on a regular basis. Mechanisms for sharing of intelligence and operational coordination among the agencies and with the States have also been put in place. Action has also been taken to strengthen and augment the intelligence machinery, and further steps are underway to fill the vacancies in the intelligence organizations expeditiously and to provide them with advanced technical equipment. In addition, the structure and arrangements for intelligence gathering and sharing are being reviewed with the aim of filling up any gaps and making them more effective and result oriented.

As regards the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai, intelligence regarding the possibility of infiltration by a suspected LeT vessel through the sea route has been shared with the Coast Guard and the Navy. The coordinates of the vessel placed it well within the territorial waters of Pakistan. Efforts were made by both of these organizations, including deploying vessels and air craft in the zone, but in the absence of any further specific inputs or information, the two organizations concluded that no further action could be taken on the basis of available information. According to information gathered during the course of the investigations so far, the terrorists hijacked an Indian fishing vessel, M.V. Kuber, and after abandoning it a few miles off the Indian coast, landed in Mumbai in an inflated rubber dinghy.

Crash of MiG fighters

*240. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some MiG fighters of the Indian Air Force have crashed in the past six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of casualties occurred due to crash of MiG fighters of IAF and compensation paid by Government;

(d) whether the factors responsible for crash of MiG fighters have been ascertained; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to check such rising trend of MiG fighter crashes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): A total number of 5 MiG aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) have crashed in the last six months. There was no causality of service personnel or civilian in these accidents.

The major causes for crash of MiG fighters are Human Error, Technical Defect and Bird Hit.

Each aircraft accident in the IAF is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly to check their recurrence in future. Besides, a continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight